

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4188

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMCONSUL ZAGREB

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 4951

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CASC YO US

SUBJECT: GOING ON THE OFFENSIVE: EMIGRES AND DUAL NATIONALS

1. ANNOYED BY RECENT COMPLAINTS AND LECTURES FROM YUGOSLAV SIDE ABOUT CASES OF EMIGRES AND PROBLEMS OF DUAL NATIONALS ON OUR SIDE, I HAVE IN PAST TWO DAYS GONE ON OFFENSIVE IN CALL ON FEDERAL SECRETARY OF INTERIOR FRANJO HERLJEVIC TUESDAY AND ON FSFA ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR NORTH AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS NIKOLA MILICEVIC THURSDAY. I WENT INTO MY OWN ALL TOO FAMILIAR HERE SERMON ON THE RESTRAINTS OF THE AMERICAN CONSITUTIONAL SYSTEM AS REGARDS PROBLEM OF EMIGRES. I SUSPECT THAT I AM BEGINNING TO SOUND LIKE THE YUGOSLAVS ON SELF-MANAGEMENT AND NON-ALIGNMENT. BUT EVEN IF THEY NEVER UNDERSTAND THE MATTER THEY MAY AVOID RAISING ISSUE JUST TO AVOID LECTURE. IN FACT, HERLJEVIC EVEN PROTESTED THAT I WAS CONDUCTING A SEMINAR AT HIS EXPENSE.

2. WITH RESPECT TO RECENT LUNCHEON CONVERSATION BETWEEN AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN AND PETRIC, I STATE TO MILICEVIC YESTERDAY THAT NOTHING AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN HAD SAID IN ANY WAY SUGGESTED SYMPATHY WITH MOTIVES OF EMIGRES WHO COMMIT HOSTILE ACTS AGAINST YUGOSLAVIA. I STRESSED THAT  
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PRESIDENT FORD SUPPORTED TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF YUGO-

SLAVIA AND HAD RECENTLY EMPHASIZED THIS. AS AMBASSADOR AND PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF PRESIDENT, I ASSURED MILICEVIC THAT USG IN NO WAY BEHIND CROATIAN SEPARATISTS, AND WE RESENTED AND REJECTED THE IMPLICATION. I SUGGESTED THAT GOY MUST HAVE RECEIVED MISINFORMATION RE CONVERSATION AND NOTED THAT ISSUE AROSE IN CONTEXT OF DISCUSSIONS ABOUT PUERTO RICO, AN ISSUE ABOUT WHICH U.S. IS UNDERSTANDABLY SENSITIVE. TO MILICEVIC'S ASSERTION THAT ONE COULD NOT MAKE A DIRECT COMPARISON BETWEEN ISSUES OF PUERTO RICO AND ACTIVITIES OF CROATIAN TERRORISTS IN U.S., I SAID WE CERTAINLY COULD AND DID. BOTH ISSUES INVOLVED TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF OUR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES. I ADDED THAT THE USG WOULD NEVER IN ANY WAY SUPPORT CROATIAN SEPARATISTS IN AN ATTEMPT TO PUT PRESSURE ON YUGOSLAVIA RE PUERTO RICO SINCE THE U.S. POLICY OF SUPPORT FOR THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF YUGOSLAVIA IS SET IN CONCRETE, BUT U.S. HAS THE RIGHT TO REQUEST ACTIVE REPEAT ACTIVE SUPPORT FROM YUGOSLAVIA FOR TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF U.S. MILICEVIC THOUGHT ABOUT THIS AND SAID HE REALIZED THAT IT INCONCEIVABLE FOR U.S. TO SUPPORT CROATIAN SEPARATISTS, ADDING "WE KNOW IT IS IN YOUR INTEREST TO SUPPORT TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF YUGOSLAVIA." HE STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT IF "COMPETENT ORGANS" IN USG WANTED TO PUT STOP TO ACTIVITIES HOSTILE TO GOY THEY COULD, ADMITTING HOWEVER THAT GOY MIGHT BE OVERESTIMATING POSSIBILITY OF THIS.

3. I SAID THAT DESPITE THE GENERALLY GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS, THERE WERE SUCH IRRITANTS AS ONE WE HAD BEEN DISCUSSING FROM YUGOSLAV SIDE AND ONE I WANTED TO RAISE FROM U.S. SIDE, NAMELY THE PROBLEM OF CONSULAR PROTECTION FOR DUAL NATIONALS AND SPECIFICALLY THE CASE OF LASZLO TOTH. I SUGGESTED THAT TOTH CASE HAD NOT BEEN HANDLED IN THE BEST FASHION AND SAID I HAD BEEN PERSONALLY PLACED IN DIFFICULT POSITION AT LACK OF GOY RESPONSE TO OUR REPEATED ATTEMPTS TO FIND OUT FACTS OF CASE, ESPECIALLY SINCE STARCEVIC (NORTH AMERICAN DIRECTOR) HAD PROMISED ME AND CONGRESSMEN RESPONSE FOR VISITING ALBERT CODEL SEVERAL WEEKS AGO. I SAID WHOLE QUESTION OF CONSULAR PROTECTION FOR DUAL NATIONALS WAS VERY TROUBLING ONE AND THAT IN LIGHT OF EXPERIENCE WITH TOTH

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CASE WHERE WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE EVEN TO GET INFORMATION, WE MAY BE FORCED TO CONSIDERTAKING STEPS TO WARN U.S. CITIZENS BORN IN YUGOSLAVIA THAT EMBASSY UNABLE TO PROVIDE CONSULAR PROTECTION.

4. THIS SUGGESTION CLEARLY SEEMED TO BOTHER MILICEVIC WHO SAID SUCH STEP COULD ONLY BE DETRIMENTAL TO BILATERAL RELATIONS. I REPLIED THAT SUCH STEP SHOULD

NOT HAVE NEARLY THE IMPACT ON OUR RELATIONS AS TWO OR  
THREE UNRESOLVED TOTH CASES WOULD HAVE, AND THAT  
EFFORT TO WARN AMCITS WOULD HELP RATHER THAN  
HURT RELATIONS BY REMOVING MAJOR IRRITANT. ALTHOUGH  
HE DID NOT COMMENT DIRECTLY ON TOTH CASE AND SAID THERE  
WAS NO CHANGE IN GOY POLICY ON DUAL NATIONALS, MILICEVIC  
SAID GOY WOULD LIKE TO RECONSIDER QUESTION BEFORE WE  
PURSUE THAT PATH.  
SILBERMAN

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## Message Attributes

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